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Reference: Docket 99-25

To the Commission:

KPIE-LP urges you to take a positive position for LPFM and community radio and support the results of the MITRE REPORT.

Chairman Powell, you speak in public as though you're in favor of community radio and LPFM. If that is the case, this is your chance to stand up for community radio and LPFM and be counted.

KPIE-LP has been on the air in Dallas, Oregon, since August of 2002. Our service to and participation in our community is exemplary, in spite of the fact that we are almost totally covered by our co-channel station, KNRK in Portland, in areas within 1 mile of our transmitter site. This mess was generated because our original clear channel was knocked out because of the Congressional mandate to reinstate a rule an earlier FCC study had shown was unnecessary.

As the rules currently stand, they are stacked against LPFM in almost every way. KPIE-LP originally was prepared to file for channel 232. With the return of the 3rd adjacent channel requirement we were forced to move to channel 234 where we have experienced severe interference. We, by the very laws we operate under, are non-commercial so our means of gaining operating funds are limited. Add the fact that we are unable to be heard by most of our potential listeners and our opportunity for generating funds, to hire high-priced FCC attorneys and consulting engineering firms to fight this gross injustice, is eliminated. I understand that is just exactly what the NAB and full power stations want. We can hold our own against the full power stations with our good programming, if we are given a FAIR chance. But this third adjacent channel rule is so lop-sided I can't believe honest men could be involved. I ask you, just who is important here, the NAB or the public.

I spent many years in broadcasting and many times I saw waivers to rules and the statement "if there is a problem, we'll address it then." One has to ask why that is not able to apply to LPFM also.

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In light of the hundreds of translators that are currently being licensed by the FCC almost daily, we urge that you recommend to Congress that this waiver be effective retroactively to place LPFM applicants in the same position they were in before the law was changed in December of 2000.

We have the support of our county commissioners, mayors, city councils, schools and the residents of our surrounding area. They also want to know why the FCC and Congress can't or won't help us. We urge the Commission and Congress to eliminate the third channel rule as it has been recommended in the MITRE REPORT.

Sincerely,
Fred Compton